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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/915,791	07/26/2001	Jon B. Joachim	10541-066	7546
29074	7590	10/17/2003	EXAMINER	
BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, IL 60611			AGUIRRECHEA, JAYDI A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2834	

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/915,791

Applicant(s)

JOACHIM, JON B.

Examiner

Jaydi A. Aguirrechea

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 July 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ids.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The Examiner considered the IDS filed on January 10, 2003. Examiner noted in the 1449 what appears to be an error in the third line of the foreign patent documents. Document number should read 1 039 619 A2.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the stator assembly must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show the threaded bore 28 as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Second end point on the first sentence of paragraph 0017 of the specification should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chottiner et al. (US 6204577) in view of Haga et al (US 6345430).

Chottiner discloses a rotor assembly for an electric device comprising: a hub (32) fixedly connectable to a crankshaft of an engine (Column 4, lines 1-3);

a rotor fixedly connected to said hub (Column 4) for operational engagement with a stator of the electric device.

However, it fails to disclose an elastomeric material disposed between and interconnecting said hub and said rotor to provide torsional dampening.

Haga teach the use of an elastomeric material disposed between the hub and a massive body for the purpose of absorbing torsional vibration occurring in a rotation driving system.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use the elastomeric member disclosed by Haga on the electric machine disclosed by Chottiner for the purpose of absorbing torsional vibration occurring in a rotation driving system.

7. With regards to claim 2, Chottiner's hub includes an inner diameter sized to allow said hub to be press fit onto an end of the crankshaft and held thereto by a bolt threaded into the end of the crankshaft.

8. With regards to claim 3, Chottiner discloses the claimed invention wherein the hub includes an outer flange and said rotor is attached to the outer flange with threaded fasteners spaced radially about said hub.

9. With regards to claim 4, Chottiner discloses the claimed invention wherein said hub includes an outer flange and said rotor includes an inner diameter, said outer flange and said inner diameter being sized to allow said rotor to be press fit onto said outer flange and held securely thereto.

10. With regards to claim 5, the combination of Chottiner and Haga discloses the claimed invention wherein the machine is mounted to a vehicle drivetrain, wherein the drivetrain includes an engine, a crankshaft extending from within the engine on a front side, and a transmission, said electric device comprising: a hub fixedly connectable to the crankshaft of the engine on the front side opposite the transmission; a stator mountable to the engine independently of the crankshaft; a rotor fixedly connected to said hub and disposed within said stator for operational engagement with said stator, and an elastomeric material disposed between and interconnecting said hub and said rotor to provide torsional dampening.

11. With regards to claim 6, Chottiner discloses a stator/generator.

12. With regards to claim 7, Chottiner discloses the claimed invention wherein said hub includes an inner diameter sized to allow said hub to be press fit onto an end of the crankshaft and held thereto by a bolt threaded into the end of the crankshaft.

13. With regards to claim 8, Chottiner discloses the claimed invention wherein said hub includes an outer flange and said rotor is attached to said outer flange with threaded fasteners spaced radially about said hub.

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14. With regards to claim 9, Chottiner discloses the claimed invention wherein said hub includes an outer flange and said rotor includes an inner diameter, said outer flange and said inner diameter being sized to allow said rotor to be press fit onto said outer flange and held securely thereto.

15. With regards to claim 10-14, the combination of Chottiner and Haga discloses the claimed invention as explained above.

Response to Arguments

16. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

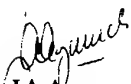
Conclusion


17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jaydi A. Aguirrechea whose telephone number is 703-305-2277. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 9-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 703-308-1371. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.


JAA
10/9/03


Nicholas Ponomarenko
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800